

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L HERMOSILLO 351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PINR SOCI MX

SUBJECT : LAND INVASIONS: FARM IN SOUTHERN SONORA

SEIZED NOV. 20

REF: MEXICO 9883

1. AT DAWN ON THURSDAY NOV. 20, WHILE MEXICO COMMEMORATED ITS REVOLUTION, 150 PERSONS INVADED PRIVATELY OWNED LAND IN YAQUI VALLEY 20 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF CIUDAD OBREGON. PEACEABLE OCCUPATION OF LAND WAS BY CAMPESINOS BELONGING TO GROUPS KNOWN AS 18 RPT 18 SEPTEMBER, 5TH OF MAY, AND MARTYRS OF CAMPO 60, ALL AFFILIATED WITH UGOCM (GENERAL UNION) RPT UGOCM (GENERAL UNION OF MEXICAN WORKERS AND PEASANTS). THEY ARE LED BY JUAN ANGUIS. THE INVASION IS TO PROTEST LACK OF PROGRESS IN LAND REFORM SECRETARIAT'S (SRA) HANDLING OF CAMPESINO DEMANDS FOR ALLOCATION OF LAND. INVADERS HAVE REFUSED SUGGESTIONS THAT THEY VACATE THIS SEIZED LAND AND VOWED TO REMAIN UNTIL SRA SOLVES THEIR PROBLEM.

2. GOVERNOR CARRILLO MARCOR DETAILED SONORA SECRETARY GENERAL (LT. GOVERNOR) RAUL ENCINAS ALCANTAR, TO DISCUSS THEIR COMPLAINT WITH INVADERS. ENCINAS OFFERED TO BRING CAMPESINOS TO HERMOSILLO FOR MEETING WITH GOVERNOR. THEY REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OFFER, PROFESSED THEIR SUPPORT TO GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, BUT REMAINED IN OC-

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CUPATION OF THE LAND. SONORA STATE SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE

AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY STAYED IN CIUDAD OBREGON UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH CAMPESINOS.

3. SRA DELEGATE IN SONORA RICARDO MARTINEZ WILSON HAS STATED THAT THE INVADERS WERE WORKING IN VARIOUS YAQUI VALLEY FARMS. THE CASE OF THE 18 OF SEPTEMBER GROUP IS PENDING DECISION IN MEXICO CITY. THE CASES OF THE OTHER TWO GROUPS ARE STILL AT THE SONORA OFFICE OF SRA FOR TECHNICAL AND FACTUAL STUDIES. MARTINEZ WILSON RECOMMENDED THAT SONORA STATE AUTHORITIES ASK NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF UGOCM TO PERSUADE CAMPESINOS TO LEAVE SEIZED LAND.

4. HIGHLY PUBLICISED ACTIVITY OF LAND REFORM SECRETARIAT IN SONORA DURING WEEK OR TEN DAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OCTOBER 23 SAN IGNACIO "MASSACRE" STILL WITHOUT TANGIBLE RESULTS. DURING HIS NUMEROUS MEETINGS WITH THOUSANDS OF CAMPESINOS AFTER TAKING OFFICE, GOVERNOR CARRILLO MARCOR STRESSED DESIRE OF STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO EXPEDITE PROCESSING OF THE OVER 900 PENDING CASES OF DEMANDS FOR ALLOCATION OF LAND QUOTE PEACEFULLY AND WITHIN THE LAW UNQUOTE.

5. ON NOVEMBER 19, CARRILLO IMploRED LANDLESS CAMPESINOS TO BE CAUTIOUS AND PATIENT AND TO REJECT PROVOCATIONS TO VIOLENCE. ADDRESSING A MULTITUDE WHICH ACCOMPANIED NEWLY INSTALLED PRESIDENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PRI, JESUS ENRIQUEZ BURGOS, IN PROCLAIMING HIS LOYALTY TO SONORA'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE, CARRILLO SAID QUOTE PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, GIVE ME TIME JUST A FEW DAYS MORE, DON'T FALL INTO HANDS OF AGITATORS WHO URGE YOU TO INVAD LANDS WHOSE ONLY OBJECT IS TO HAMPER THE FULFILMENT OF THE LAW. I SWORE TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS, OF WHICH LAND REFORM IS ONE, AND WILL NOT PERJURE MYSELF. UNQUOTE CARRILLO ALSO REPEATED HIS EARLIER APPEALS TO LANDOWNERS WHO CONCEAL THEIR OWNERSHIP OF LARGE AREAS BY LEGAL TECHNICALITIES TO COOPERATE, IN THE INTEREST OF SOCIAL PEACE AND IN THEIR OWN PERSONAL INTEREST, IN GIVING THE LANDLESS PEASANTS WHAT THE LAW ENTITLES THEM TO, ASSURING THE CAMPESINOS THAT QUOTE IF THEY (LANDOWNERS) DO NOT DO IT, WE SHALL GO TO THEM WITH THE LAW IN HAND AND OBLIGE THEM TO DO IT.

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6. ENRIQUEZ BURGOS, IS FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF SONORA UNDER GOVERNOR BIEBRICH. THEY ONLY MAKING OFFICIAL OF THAT ADMINISTRATION WHO SURVIVED CARRILLO'S PURGE, HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF SONORA STATE SUPREME COURT ON OCTOBER 29 BY CARRILLO. I CALLED ON HIM TEN DAYS AGO IN THIS CAPACITY, AND ENRIQUEZ BURGOS REFERRED TO THE LAND REFORM PROBLEM, SAYING THAT GOVERNOR CARRILLO HAD ASKED HIM WHAT

HE, CARRILLO, COULD DO TO EXPEDITE SOLUTION OF THIS EXPLOSIVE PROBLEM. ENRIQUEZ BURGOS TOLD ME THAT HE TOLD THE GOVERNOR QUOTE YOU CAN DO NOTHING UNQUOTE. ENRIQUEZ BURGOS IS AN EXPERT IN AGRARIAN LAW , HAVING TAUGHT COURSE IN THIS SPECIALTY AT UNIVERSITY OF SONORA LAW SCHOOL FOR PAST THIRTEEN YEARS. HE SAID THAT CONSTITUTION AND LAWS ARE EXPLICIT IN VESTING ALL AUTHORITY OVER LAND REFORM IN THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE. BY IMPLICATION ENRIQUEZ BURGOS WAS UNDOUBTEDLY DEFENDING FORMER GOVERNOR BIEBRICH, WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN CHARGED WITH INGRATITUDE (AND WORSE) TOWARD PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AND THE POLITICAL SYSTEM QUOTE WHICH MADE HIM UNQUOTE FOR HAVING SAID THE SAME THING IN DEFENSE OF HIS ACTIONS AS GOVERNOR BEFORE AND AFTER THE OCTOBER 23 MASSACRE. ENRIQUEZ BURGOS WAS ELECTED FEDERAL DEPUTY FROM THIRD ELECTORAL DISTRICT IN SONORA IN 1973, HAS BEEN ON LEAVE SINCE SHORTLY AFTER ELECTION. HE IS NOW RE-ASSUMING HIS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SEAT FOR REMAINDER OF HIS TERM.

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